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# Senate Approves Colby as Director for CIA

## 83-13 Confirmation Reflects Promise to Keep Agency Out of Domestic Operations

WASHINGTON (UPI)—The Senate Wednesday approved the nomination of William E. Colby as director of the Central Intelligence Agency.

Reflected in the 83-to-13 vote for confirmation were Colby's promise to keep the CIA out of domestic operations and his expressed belief that it should answer more fully to Congress.

Opposition to Colby's nomination, led by Sens. Harold E. Hughes (D-Iowa) and Edward M. Kennedy (D-Mass.), centered around his 2½ years in charge of Operation Phoenix in South Vietnam.

Kennedy said 20,587 Viet Cong suspects were killed in the program, an effort to stamp out South Vietnamese citizen support for the Viet Cong.

### Use of Torture

Part of the U.S. pacification program, which Colby directed from late 1963 to early 1971, Operation Phoenix has been criticized for its use of torture and assassination.

Sen. Stuart Symington (D-Mo.), acting chairman of the Senate Armed Services Committee, said Colby had testified that Phoenix was improperly run when he took it over, but that he initiated reforms to remove abuses.

"This was a man acting under orders," Symington said. "He accepted a tough job and did his best to carry it out."

Symington said the Senate would not let Colby lead the CIA in paramilitary operations rather than conventional warfare

in Indochina.

Symington and Sen. Henry M. Jackson (D-Wash.) said no previous nominee for the top U.S. intelligence post had ever been questioned so extensively by Congress.

Symington refused a request by Sen. William Proxmire (D-Wis.) that he make the CIA's classified budget public. Symington said he would be glad to brief Proxmire privately.

Proxmire, who supported Colby's nomination, complained there was too much blindness in Congress about the CIA.

"We will be confirming him for a blind position," he said. "In my opinion the director of Central Intelligence is one of the eight or 10 most powerful positions in government. So we will vote for or against a man in an immensely powerful office and we know very little about him or the job."

### Parachuted into France

Colby, 53, has been involved in clandestine activities since World War II, when he was parachuted behind German lines in France to work with resistance forces, and entered occupied Norway to destroy a German-held rail line.

Colby was graduated from Columbia law school after the war and joined a New York law firm headed by William J. Donovan, his former superior in the Office of Strategic Services, forerunner of today's CIA.

In 1949 Colby took a job with the National Labor Relations Board in Washington, and from 1951

through 1959 he held staff jobs in various U.S. embassies abroad.

His first acknowledged CIA job began in 1962, when he became chief of the agency's Far East division in Washington.

Colby now serves as CIA deputy director for operations. He was nominated by President Nixon in May to succeed James R. Schlesinger, who became secretary of defense.